

The legacy of Sergeant Alvin C. York, a man who embodied grit, humility, and perseverance himself, lives on in every player who wore the Dragons' colors this season.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the York Institute Dragons on an outstanding season.

NOT JUST ABOUT DOLLARS AND CENTS

Mr. ROSE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about money or, more specifically, cash.

As many of you know, I, alongside my Democrat colleague Congressman DONALD NORCROSS, have introduced the bipartisan Payment Choice Act of 2025, H.R. 1138.

The bill is straightforward in its intent: to protect the right of Americans to use cash for retail purchases up to \$500.

This legislation is not just about dollars and cents. It is about preserving the freedoms, privacy, and practicalities that cash affords every American.

I hold in my hand a \$20 bill. As probably most of you who have looked closely at our American currency know, inscribed on the face of this bill, alongside the portrait of Andrew Jackson, is the inscription that "this note is legal tender for all debts"—for all debts—"public and private."

Late Congressman Donald Payne, Jr., who was deeply passionate about this issue, captured it best when he said: "Cash is the only option available for millions of Americans to pay for food, housing, and other essentials. In addition, there are major security concerns with digital payments that do not occur with cash payments. Companies cannot misuse your data after a cash payment. Besides, there are few things more American than cash."

Cash should continue to be the one form of payment that is truly universal, accepted everywhere by everyone, regardless of age, income, or background. Yet, an alarming number of businesses, large and small, around the Nation are refusing to accept cash, despite its status as legal tender for all debts, public and private.

Many of our national parks are also taking part in this unfortunate trend. Imagine being denied access to a Federal park as an American taxpayer who has cash in hand. It is unreasonable, and we cannot let this continue.

The shift toward a cashless society may be convenient for all of us, but it will leave behind millions of Americans. Nearly one in five U.S. households relies exclusively on cash or has no access to alternative means of payment beyond the physical dollars.

Cash isn't just a preference to many folks; it is a necessity. That includes seniors, the unbanked, those on fixed incomes, and privacy-conscious American citizens.

Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell testified before the House Financial Services Committee, which I serve on, that cash is "absolutely critical be-

cause there are people who don't have credit cards," and that "when stores are not dealing with people who don't have cash, it is a serious problem." He is right.

Not only are digital payments not accessible to everybody, but they also come with real concerns about privacy, data security, and the risk of identity theft.

The Payment Choice Act is rooted in fundamental American values: the freedom to choose, fairness, and privacy.

By giving consumers the right to pay with cash, we uphold their ability to participate fully in our economy, while also safeguarding their personal privacy.

Paying with cash means you leave no digital bread crumbs, and your personal information belongs to you.

At the same time, America is embracing new financial innovations, and I understand that. Last July, I joined President Trump at the White House for the signing of the GENIUS Act into law. The law reinforces the United States' leadership in digital currencies by securing dollar-pegged stablecoins as the dominant digital currency in the world.

□ 1120

This is an important step forward, but even as we welcome these advances, we must never lose sight of a simple truth: Cash remains vital to our Nation's economic stability, our individual freedoms, and national security. In times of crisis, whether it is a natural disaster or a cyberattack, digital payment systems can fail.

Just look around the world, Mr. Speaker, and the case for cash is clear. Sweden, for example, is now backpedaling on its decades-long push to go cashless. Sweden's cashless U-turn was driven by security concerns after witnessing attacks on energy grids and communications networks in Ukraine.

Back home, we have seen a disturbing rise in the number of cyberattacks targeting our grid and our telecommunications networks, and if that grid goes down and if those networks are compromised, then you will be glad that you have cash, Mr. Speaker, and not just a cash app.

I want to address the "let the market decide" argument.

Some say we should let the market decide whether a business accepts cash, but the reality is far more complicated. Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, San Francisco, and other States have passed their own State or local regulations. That is not letting the market decide, and with no Federal law requiring cash acceptance, this inconsistent patchwork of regulations creates headaches for retailers and consumers alike.

That is not truly a market decision but rather a fragmented regulation. Establishing a national standard would not only streamline operations for businesses but also ensure that every

American retains the freedom to use cash, a public good and legal tender.

The case of Toby Stover v. United States National Park Service recently underscored the importance of this fight. The case involves a woman who attempted to pay her entrance fee at the historic home of President Franklin D. Roosevelt in Hyde Park, New York, using U.S. currency clearly marked as legal tender.

Park officials refused, turning her away despite Federal law stating that U.S. coins and currency are, again, legal tender for all debts, public charges, taxes, and dues.

Think about that: A Federal agency declined to accept the very currency issued by the U.S. Treasury, at the home of the President who, in 1935, ordered the Great Seal of the United States printed on every dollar bill to instill public confidence during the Great Depression.

That is not just an ironic, hypothetical scenario. It is a glaring contradiction in our payment systems.

Our legislation is carefully crafted. It requires brick-and-mortar businesses that accept in-person payments to accept cash for purchases up to \$500. It prohibits charging cash customers more than those paying by credit card, and it includes reasonable exceptions for temporary cash shortages or system failures. We have also built in consumer protections and clear enforcement mechanisms so that the right to pay with cash is not just theoretical but real and enforceable.

As I have said before, cash is and always will be king. As a growing number of businesses across the country refuse to accept cash, it is important for Congress to publicly recognize its importance.

Mr. Speaker, I call on Americans to encourage their Representatives and Senators in Congress to support the Payment Choice Act, and I call on all my colleagues in the House and Senate to join me in affirming that cash should be universally accepted across this great country.

Together we can ensure that payment choice remains a cornerstone of American commerce.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

AND STILL I RISE: THE DANGERS OF UNREGULATED CRYPTOCURRENCY

(Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 3, 2025, Mr. GREEN of Texas was recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.)

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, and still I rise.

And still I rise, unbought, unbossed, unafraid: a liberated Democrat.

I rise as an unbought, liberated, and unafraid Democrat. I am unbought by crypto cash, unbought by the millions of dollars that the crypto industry spends to elect people to Congress so that they can have influence over legislation, and unbossed by the

cryptocrats, the people who are among the greediest when it comes to controlling money and who desire to not only avoid taxes but to evade taxes.

I am unbossed, unbought, and unafraid; unafraid to speak truth to the powerful crypto industry and unafraid to speak truth about the powerful crypto industry.

Mr. Speaker, you can speak truth to power by simply saying: Power, there is a problem. Let's solve it.

I speak truth about power because I say to power: There is a problem, and you are it.

Today, as a censored but not silenced—censored but not silenced—Member of Congress, I will today speak truth not only to power but also speak truth about power. As I do so, and I will use my pointer as I customarily do, my cane. By the way, this cane is not to help me ambulate. I am quite ambulatory. This cane is a rod and a staff that comforts me in the presence of my enemies when I don't have the protection that Congress is providing us, and I don't always have it.

Today, as I speak truth unbought, unbossed, unafraid, and censored but not silenced, I want to call several things to your attention, Mr. Speaker, under the topic of the dangers of unregulated cryptocurrency. There are dangers associated with cryptocurrency when it is not properly regulated.

Let's start with the memecoins.

Mr. Speaker, if you own a memecoin, you own nothing. You have bought nothing. You have paid for nothing, and at some point, some of the owners of memecoins will get exactly what they paid for: nothing.

A memecoin is a fiction that requires the person who buys initially at some point to hope that there is another person who will buy at a higher price and that the money between the price paid for and the price you can sell for, the higher price, becomes your profit.

In the parlance of those who do much of this at a street level, that is called the greater fool theory: buying in and believing that there is a greater fool who will come along and cover your possible losses.

If you own a memecoin, Mr. Speaker, you own nothing.

The President is one of the great purveyors of memecoins. The President has a coin, the \$TRUMP Coin, and this coin he can pump up, and he can dump and leave those who are part of the higher price holding the bag.

The President pumps and dumps. This is a scam.

I am speaking truth about power, not just to power.

Yes, Mr. President, you are the problem. You have taken advantage of many people with your scam wherein you can make comments and tell people to come down to Mar-a-Lago, come on down, and those who have the greatest investment, you will be allowed. Those who are buying in at a cheaper level won't be allowed.

Therefore, people can go out and buy so that they can be among those who will come to Mar-a-Lago and as a result, he pumps up the value of his memecoin, which is nothing. He pumps up the value of nothing, and then at some point he can sell at this higher price and make an amount of money.

□ 1130

This is really insider trading that is transparent. I don't think the President ought to be able to own memecoins. I don't think the Cabinet should own memecoins. I don't think Members of Congress should own memecoins.

I think that Members of Congress, the President, and the Cabinet have advantages that other people don't have. We talk to each other. The President can tell people when to buy and when to sell because he is going to pump and then dump or allow you to dump.

I believe the law ought to regulate such that memecoins cannot be owned and sold by Members of Congress, members of the Cabinet, the President, and possibly some others that I shall not name at this point.

I believe that we have to properly regulate the memecoin. That is why the cryptocrats want to get me out of Congress because they know I fight them. I stand in the way of what they attempt to do to people who are not knowledgeable about how this can be pumped and dumped and how people can be taken advantage of.

I am in the way, yes. Come and get me. I understand it. Come and get me. As long as I am here, I am going to stay in the way. I want to protect the American people from this kind of insider trading, this kind of selling of nothing, and being taken advantage of by those who happen to buy nothing and assume that they can sell it for something.

Yes, the memecoin is a problem. Those who sell it and create it are a part of the problem when it is not properly regulated.

Mr. Speaker, I want to call to your attention the decentralization of cryptocurrency. The cryptocrats want to decentralize cryptocurrency so that they can have peer-to-peer transference of dollars, huge sums of dollars, untold amounts of dollars, peer-to-peer transfers.

Why is this so important to them? If you can transfer peer-to-peer, you can engage in tax evasion—more than tax avoidance. Tax avoidance is legal. Tax evasion is illegal. You can transfer huge sums of money from one person to another without some central entity that can be there to make sure that it is properly regulated. That is what the cryptocrats want. They want to be able to just transfer money. That way, you can avoid taxes.

You can also do something else when you have this peer-to-peer transference. You can also transfer that money at a speed that is unbelievably fast. You can transfer it to a terrorist

organization. It can be received by those who would do us harm, those who would disrupt our society, and those who would disrupt the democracy that we cherish.

Yes, the cryptocrats are in the business of buying and selling. They are also in the business of contributing to those who would agree with what I am antithetical to. Those who would agree with what I am antithetical to would allow them to have peer-to-peer transfers and allow them to have memecoins that are meaningless, nothing but a thought, a fiction.

I am speaking truth about power, not just to it. Yes, decentralization without regulation is a problem.

Of course, the cryptocrats, whether wittingly or unwittingly, are moving in the direction of creating something akin to the demise of the almighty dollar. Cryptocrats would, if they could, have cryptocurrency become the pre-eminent currency.

There is a war for currency supremacy going on across the globe. The dollar is the supreme currency across the globe. It is the reserve currency of choice across the globe. The cryptocrats would have the cryptocurrency become the currency of choice. Use the cryptocurrency. Use it, and you don't have to have it go through some centralized location. Just transfer your money like you please.

In fact, if they had their way, cryptocurrency would be tantamount to banks. They would have unregulated banks. The sad thing about what I have just said is that the banks don't know who their friends are. They don't understand, it seems, that there are some of us who are fighting this. They don't seem to understand that.

Well, I can tell you this: I am going to protect the American banking system, whether the banks will join in and help or not. I am going to protect the American banking system because, in so doing, I am protecting the American dollar, and in so doing, I am helping to protect American democracy to a certain extent.

If the banking system fails, people lose trust. They lose trust in the economy. That impacts the democracy in the sense that we allow people to be placed into office who would facilitate this decentralized transfer of money.

I am opposed to it. I am going to protect the banks in this country, a system that has functioned. It has allowed the dollar to be the supreme currency of choice globally. We have to protect the American dollar. I am going to do that.

The cryptocrats, if they had their way, would own every Member of Congress, but there are some who resist. I am a part of the resistance. As a matter of fact, I may be at the tip of the spear of the resistance, a part of the avant-garde. I am the resistance, to a certain extent. There are others, but I assure you that I am going to remain the architect of some portion of this resistance as long as I am in Congress.

Therein is the operative phrase for the cryptocrats: He said as long as he is in Congress. Well, if we just get him out of Congress, we don't have him to contend with.

Well, you can do that, but there are others who will follow. There are. There are others who are already in the fight. They are. They are there. I can assure you of this: I am going to fight you to the bitter end. Until my last days, I will fight what I see as a demise of the dollar, a peer-to-peer transference of money such that you can avoid taxes, and the creation of nothing and selling it as something.

This is the epitome of ridiculousness, to allow such things to occur and not challenge them.

I assure all who listen that I am going to protect your wallet. There are people who say they want to put more money in your wallet? Well, I am going to protect your wallet and make sure that you can get money in your wallet and not allow people to cleverly disguise themselves as persons who want to regulate when, in fact, they just want to pass something under the guise of regulation so that the cryptocrats can continue to move in the direction of dominance with the cryptocurrency, the crypto dollars, as it were.

This is not something that we should take lightly, and I do not. I want to assure you that I am censured but not silenced.

I also want to assure you of something else: The countdown to impeachment continues. What the President has done as it relates to wars, as it relates to pumping and dumping, which I have explained earlier, and as it relates to his disrespect for the Constitution of the United States of America, he has done things that are clearly impeachable.

It is just a matter of time, Mr. President. Your day will come. Someone is going to stand in the well of the House of Representatives and read Articles of Impeachment to remove you from office. It would be the thing that this country should do so as to prevent another cryptocrat, such as yourself—yes, the President is a cryptocrat—to prevent another cryptocrat such as yourself from assuming power. We have to protect American democracy from the cryptocrats.

We have already had a former Vice President say that this President is a great threat to the Republic. I think he said the greatest threat to the Republic. President Donald John Trump: a threat to the Republic and a threat to democracy.

Cryptocracy is his main concern, it seems, because it is a family business that he has brought to the White House, and they are using this family business to make billions of dollars at the expense of unsuspecting Americans and people of other stripes, as well.

□ 1140

I am censured, not silenced, and I am engaging in a countdown to impeach-

ment. I know that there are people who want to know when. It will happen when it happens, and I assure you it is going to happen.

Mr. Speaker, I am grateful for the time. I am proud to say that I am AL GREEN, the OG AL GREEN, unbought, unbosomed, unafraid, uncontrolled by the cryptocrats.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members are reminded to refrain from engaging in personalities towards the President.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 11 o'clock and 41 minutes a.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until Tuesday, May 19, 2026, at noon for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

EC-3536. A letter from the Attorney, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's final rule — Prohibition of the Use of Reputation Risk by Regulators [Docket ID.: OCC-2025-0142] (RIN: 1557-AF34) received April 29, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-3537. A letter from the Assistant Director, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Department of the Treasury, transmitting the Department's Major final rule — Regulatory Capital Rule: Community Bank Leverage Ratio Framework [Docket ID: OCC-2025-0141] (RIN: 1557-AF33) received April 29, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Financial Services.

EC-3538. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, AGC-010, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class D and Class E2 Airspace Over Wilmington, DE [Docket No.: FAA-2026-1256; Airspace Docket No.: 26-AEA-3] (RIN: 2120-AA66) received May 5, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3539. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, AGC-010, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Amendment of Class E5 Airspace Over Elizabeth City, NC [Docket No.: FAA-2026-1816; Airspace Docket No.: 26-ASO-3] received May 5, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3540. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, AGC-010, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31662; Amdt. No.: 4216] received May 5,

2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3541. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, AGC-010, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 31661; Amdt. No.: 4215] received May 5, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3542. A letter from the Manager, Legal Litigation and Support, AGC-010, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes [Docket No.: FAA-2025-1114; Project Identifier AD-2025-00314-T; Amendment 39-23321; AD 2026-09-01] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received May 5, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3543. A letter from the Paralegal, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's Direct final rule — Pipeline Safety: Standards Update—ASTM D2513 [Docket No.: PHMSA-2026-1528; Amdt No.: 192-164] (RIN: 2137-AG32) received May 5, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3544. A letter from the Paralegal, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's Direct final rule — Pipeline Safety: Standards Update — ASTM F1973 [Docket No.: PHMSA-2026-1530 Amdt. No.: 192-166] (RIN: 2137-AG34) received May 5, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

EC-3545. A letter from the Paralegal, Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's Direct final rule — Pipeline Safety: Standards Update — ASTM F2767 [Docket No.: PHMSA-2026-1529 Amdt. No.: 192-165] (RIN: 2137-AG33) received May 5, 2026, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky: Committee on Appropriations. H.R. 8845. A bill making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2027, and for other purposes (Rept. 119-652). Referred to the Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Mr. RUTHERFORD (for himself and Mr. CUELLAR):